Past Pursuits

A Newsletter of the Special Collections Division of the Akron-Summit County Public Library

Volume 4, Number 4 **Winter 2005**

If You're Not Dead, Play! Premiere

This new documentary by Phil Hoffman premiered in the Main Library's auditorium on September 21, 2005 eliciting cheers and laughter from the large audience. Featuring a few of Akron's own legendary rock bands, Chi-Pig, Unit 5, and Hammer Damage, this latest effort by Mr. Hoffman details the promise and excitement of the Akron music scene in the late 1970s and early 1980s; when young people eagerly anticipated crowding into smoky bars to hear local rock bands and those bands were assured of playing to packed houses every weekend.

The documentary is filled with unique photographs of these bands during the height of their popularity and interviews with the band members today, twenty years later. These reflections provide insight into how the changing music industry forced most of the bands to make the difficult decision to call it quits. **Continued on page 4.**

In this issue

Akron-Summit County Public Library

If You're Not Dead Play! Premiere 1
Charles C. Bronson Diaries 2
Summit Cemetery Maps 2
More Maps 2
Gift from the Summit Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society 3
Barberton Newspapers & Obituary Index 3
Summit DAR Resources 3
On-Line Records Update 4
On Exhibit 4
Local History Events Calendar 4
Genealogy Events Calendar 5
Gifts to Special Collections 6
New to the Collection 6

Charles C. Bronson Diaries

"...I would say that for the last twenty years, I have been collecting the history of Tallmadge and vicinity by having personal interviews with the pioneers male and female, and also by correspondence with those who resided in this vicinity in pioneer days, but had removed to seek homes in the western states."
Charles Cook Bronson (1804-1886)

Bronson authored ten volumes on the history of Tallmadge and collected letters, family histories and news clippings that others sent to him. These materials are now housed at the Tallmadge Historical Society. While researchers can no longer use the original diaries, their contents are accessible to researchers both in Tallmadge and here in Special Collections thanks to the efforts of Tobi Battista, former President of the Tallmadge Historical Society.

From July 1995 to January 1997, Battista spent more than 600 hours transcribing Bronson's writings, along with accompanying material such as oral presentations given by Bronson and obituaries. She then organized the materials into three-ring binders and created a table of contents for each volume. Topics covered range from the settlement of the Western Reserve, the history and early settlers of each tract of land in Tallmadge, histories of nearby Hudson and Stow, and accounts of events such as murders and trials. Battista also created a file for each family mentioned in the Bronson books, which can be searched by the Tallmadge Historical Society staff. Call the Society at 330-630-9760 for details. To read the transcripts or review the Tables of Contents, visit the Special Collections Division on the third floor of the Main Library.

Summit Cemetery Maps

Maps of Summit County Cemeteries with the names and plot locations of veterans noted are available from the Special Collections Division of the Akron-Summit County Library. This was made possible through the discovery of one of our patrons, Judy Davis, and the generosity of the Summit County Engineer's office.

The maps were created by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1939 and carefully stored by the Summit County Engineer's office before being transferred to the library. They provide some of the only documentation the library has on the burials occurring at several cemeteries such as Cedar Grove in Boston Township or Holy Cross in Coventry Township. While only veterans of US wars are noted on these maps, the maps are excellent tools for identifying a burial location when there are few government records or newspaper obituaries. They can also verify the military service of an ancestor.

In addition to the WPA maps, we received nearly 20 other maps of various cemeteries in Summit County from the Engineer's office. A few of these maps show the names of all of the people buried in the cemetery but most show plot numbers and the evolution of the cemetery over time. Stop by Special Collections to take a look at these important genealogical and historical resources.

More Maps!

Maps of the enumeration districts for the 1910, 1920, and 1930 censuses for the Akron, Barberton, and Cuyahoga Falls areas are now available. These maps can help you determine in which enumeration district to search for a difficult to find ancestor. In addition, there are historical maps showing county boundary lines for the states of New England, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and various southwestern states.

Akron street maps from 1925 through 1989 are a valuable resource for tracing the development of a neighborhood or of Akron itself. Other street maps contain the areas of Summit, Cuyahoga, Erie, Hamilton, and Washington Counties showing different cities over a range of years. Maps of the Ohio and Erie Canal show the lock system and provide suggestions concerning why people settled where they did.

Topographical maps of Summit, Portage, and Stark Counties, as well as the Cuyahoga Valley Recreational Area, give you a bird's eye view of what local farmers or developers had to contend with when settling this part of the Northwest Territory. All of these maps are now available in the map case adjacent to the atlas shelves.

Gift from Summit Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

At the October meeting of the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, Special Collections was presented with a generous gift of microfilm. Researchers now have access to early Hudson newspapers: *Western Intelligencer, 1827-1830, Observer and Telegraph, 1830-1833*, *Ohio Observer, 1833-1855*, as well as Summit County Probate Court Journals, 1852-1886 and the Guardians' Docket Records, 1840-1885. These materials will greatly enhance our collection of early Summit County resources. We are most grateful to Summit County OGS for these important gifts, as well as their continued support of our efforts to develop our Summit County genealogical collections.

Barberton Newspapers & Obituary Index

Special Collections is pleased to announce the addition of the *Barberton News* (1892-1929), *Barberton Leader* (1913-1922), and *Barberton Herald* (1928-1946) newspapers to our microfilmed newspaper collection. This addition will greatly expand our access to Summit County obituaries, especially for deaths occurring in Barberton, Kenmore, and other communities in the Barberton Area.

The Barberton Public Library indexes obituaries from the *Barberton Herald*, and very graciously loaned their indexes to us for copying. You will find the *Barberton Herald Obituary Index, 1928-2004* shelved with the *Akron Beacon Journal* obituary indexes in Special Collections.

Summit DAR Resources

The Daughters of the American Revolution, founded in 1890, is dedicated to promoting patriotism and preserving American history. Membership is open to any female 18 years or older who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Summit County is fortunate to have three local DAR chapters, the Akron Chapter, the Cuyahoga Portage Chapter, and the David Hudson Chapter. Each chapter has a lineage research chairperson who can assist prospective members with the application process. The national headquarters also offers a variety of services to researchers, many of which are available from their website: www.dar.org. Special Collections maintains a nice collection of DAR resources, including the Lineage books and the DAR Patriot Index.

Barbara Griffith, registrar for the Cuyahoga Portage Chapter of the DAR and Ohio DAR State Registrar, compiled a handy resource guide to assist researchers. It includes tips for getting started, information about the accuracy and value of the lineage books, and resources available on the DAR website including suggestions for searching the DAR online Patriot Index.

We are most grateful to Barb for taking the time to compile this valuable information for our staff, as well as researchers. For more information about the DAR and its services, you may contact the following chapter representatives:

Akron Chapter

Virginia Melver, Regent
ginnymelver@sbcglobal.net

Diana Tornichio, Registrar
dltornichio@yahoo.com

Cuyahoga Portage Chapter

Barbara Griffith, Registrar
330-896-4773
BarbCGriffith@aol.com

On-Line Records Update

West Virginia vital records can be searched on-line. The Vital Research Records Project, http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx enables you to search digital images of birth, death, and marriage records from various counties in West Virginia. The West Virginia Division of Culture and History is still adding records to this site.

The 1874, 1891 and 1910 Summit Co. Atlases, held by the University of Akron, are now available on-line through OhioLINK Digital Media Center at http://worlddmc.ohiolink.edu/History/Search?fieldname=xml&searchstring=akron&Search=Search&count=1&searchstatus=0&hits=0&collection=c7&year=any&sort=title&results=12

On Exhibit

Roadway Express & Akron's Trucking Industry
Special Collections Exhibit Case – Third Floor

2005 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of Roadway Express. In 1930, Galen Roush joined his brother Carroll's freight moving company, R&M Transportation Company. Later that year, the brothers formed Roadway Express, Inc. By 1939, Roadway had offices in 22 major cities, and by 1956, was operating terminals in 65 cities. Special Collections is pleased to highlight Roadway and its contribution to Summit County's industrial history as part of an exhibit dedicated to our community's important role in the motor carrier industry. On exhibit are numerous items on loan to us from Roadway, as well as materials from the Trucking History and Robert Orr Collections.

If You're Not Dead Play!

Continued from page 1

Following the documentary, the audience was treated to a reunion performance by two of the bands featured in the documentary, Chi-Pig and Unit 5. Both bands gave a fantastic performance that will be remembered with just as much enthusiasm as any they may have played twenty years before.

Phil Hoffman has another documentary titled *It's Everything and Then it's Gone* which showcases the beginning of his cinematic efforts on documenting Akron's unique music scene in the late 1970s. Special Collections is proud to have copies of both of his films in our collection.

Remember that Special Collections is interested in collecting any and all genres of local music, in any format, including photographs or paraphernalia related to a local musical group or organization. If you have any questions or have something of local music interest to donate, please call the Special Collections Division at 330.643.9030.

Local History Events Calendar

Remembering the Fitz
Steamship William G. Mather Museum
Cleveland, Ohio
Saturday, November 12 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Ninth Street Pier Tour of museum and discussion of Edmund Fitzgerald disaster. For more information call 216.574.9053. Admission is free, but reservations are required.

Candlelight Christmas Open House
Navarre-Bethlehem Township Historical Society
Saturday, November 19 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Historic 1836 Mathews House in Navarre will be decorated in Victorian holiday attire. For more information call, 330.879.5938.

Holidayfest
Lock 3
November 25 – December 31
Celebrate the holidays in Downtown Akron at the Chriskindl Market, enjoying the ice skating rink and Brass Band. For more information, visit www.destinationdowntownakron.com.

Christmas on the Canal
Bolivar Renaissance Association
Saturday, November 26 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Santa arrives by fire truck at the Santa House. Join

us for the tree lighting, caroling, wagon rides, hot chocolate and cookies. For more information call, 330.874.3321

Holiday Tour of Homes
Bolivar Renaissance Association
Saturday, November 26 2 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Sunday, Novemeber 27 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Tour the historic homes of the Bolivar area. For more information, call 330.874.3113. Admission is free.

Preview Party
Summit County Historical Society
Thursday, December 1
Celebrate the holidays with an evening of food, music, and spirits in the Perkins Stone Mansion. For more information, call 330.535.1120.

Scrooge's Nite Out
Ohio Canal Corridor
Friday, December 2, 7 p.m. – 1 a.m.
Downtown Cleveland holiday party with food, beverage, music and casino. Call 216.520.1825 or visit www.ohiocanal.org.

Mathews House by Candlelight
Navarre-Bethlehem Township Historical Society
Friday, December 2 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Enjoy 19th century candlelight Christmas and join a candlelight tour of Historic Rochester Square.

Dear Santa Letters in the *Barberton Herald*: 1920s-1950s
Barberton Public Library
Wednesday, December 21 2 p.m.
Hear the letters children wrote to Santa 70 years ago and see some of the toys they requested. For more information, call 330.745.1194. Admission is free.

First Night
Lock 3
Saturday, December 31 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Enjoy a family friendly community celebration of the arts. Fro more information, visit www.destinationdowntownarkron.com.

Genealogy Events Calendar

Using Chat Rooms / Vital Records: On-line
Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGG)
Saturday, November 19 9:30 a.m.
The morning session of this meeting is presented by Holly Timm & Lorraine Newsome on using chat rooms. The afternoon session is Vital Records: On-line information and Indexes. Meetings are held at the Fairview Park Regional Library.

Computer Genealogy Class
Ohio Historical Society
(Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, Ohio)
Saturday, November 19 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.
An introduction to genealogy resources available on the Internet and made for home-computer use. For more information call 800.998.7737. Admission is free.

Red State Blue State Part II
Greater Cleveland Genealogical Society
Monday, November 21 7p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
The cavaliers and servants from southwest England who settled Virginia and other southern coastal areas will be discussed as well as the people from the borderlands of England who settled the backcountry of the colonies. Join us at the Fairview Regional Library on Lorain Road in Fairview Ohio. For more information, call 440.333.4700.

Sharing Your Genealogical Data Electronically
Hudson Genealogical Study Group
Saturday, December 10 9:30 am
Presented by Roger Marble at the Hudson Library & Historical Society. For more information, call 330.653.6658.

Discovering Jewish Origins
Hudson Genealogical Study Group
Saturday January 14 9:30 a.m.
Presented by Pam Turner-Taylor at the Hudson Library & Historical Society. For more information, call 330.653.6658.

Genealogy North of the Boarder
Hudson Genealogical Study Group
Saturday, January 21 9:30 a.m.

Presented by Gwen Mayer at the Hudson Library & Historical Society. For more information, call 330.653.6658.

Preserving & Restoring Family Documents
Hudson Genealogical Study Group
Friday, January 27 7:30 p.m.
Presented by Ann Kearney at the Hudson Library & Historical Society. For more information, call 330.653.6658.

Stories that Grandma & Grandpa told us – Oral Histories of Families
Hudson Genealogical Study Group
Saturday, February 11 9:30 a.m.
Presented by Ginny Snyder & Joan Maher at the Hudson Library & Historical Society. For more information, call 330.653.6658.

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

Howland Davis II for *New Chronicles of England and France* by Robert Fabyan and microfilm:*1870 census: Washington and Westchester Counties, NY* and *1880 census: Buffalo, NY*

Richard Gardner for two copies of *Memories of Oak Hill.*

Rudy Hinderegger for materials pertaining to the German social organization, Arbeiter Saengerbund Frieheit.

Don Kammer for LP record: *Phil Palumbo and Pals.*

Beth Kenny and David Hill School for a copy of the David Hill School slideshow.

Lois Rohrer Ljungren for *The McConnel Family.*

Robert Lutz for *Official Roster of Ohio Solders, Sailors and Marines in the World War, 1917-1918 (*23 volumes) and *American Armies and Battlefields in Europe.*

Elizabeth Manuel for genealogy and local history materials pertaining to Athens County, Ohio.

Jack Morris for *Akron Central High School yearbook, 1944* and *Central High School newspaper, 1944.*

Patty Dahm Pascoe for *Genealogies of Pascoe, Scheid, Maunus of Welsh, German, Finnish Descent.*

Richard E. Rouse Jr. for *Akron East High School Yearbook, 1934.*

Sarah Skapin for *Tell Me About Akron Now: the Video Project.*

New to the Collection

Massachusetts
Mayflower Families through five generations Vol. 9

Michigan
History of Kalamazoo Co., Michigan

Ohio
Ohio Atlas & Gazetteer
Pedigree charts from the East Cuyahoga Genealogical Society
Jackson Township Coshocton Co., Ohio cemeteries
White Eyes Twp. Coshocton Co., Ohio cemeteries
Greene County, Ohio master cem. index V. I – IX
Greene County, Ohio marriage records 1803 -1840
Green Twp gleanings and cemetery inscriptions Monroe Co., Ohio
Barrere Funeral Home records 1927 – 1953 (Hamilton Co. OH)
Hamilton Co., Ohio & Cincinnati morgue records
Hamilton Co., Ohio index of early deeds 1804 – 1817
Marriages recorded in Hamilton Co., Ohio 1885 – 1889
Walnut Hills (Originally German Protestant) cemetery 1843 – 1993
Hancock Co., Ohio cemeteries – Washington Township
Index to naturalization papers found in Hancock County, Ohio
Index to Hancock Co., Ohio Wills 1829 – 1957
Marriage records of Hancock Co., Ohio 1885 – 1898

Ohio Continued

Oberlin College catalogue of graduates
Index to Lucas Co., Oh wills Vols. 1 -3
List of electors registered in the city of Toledo, Ohio
Building a firm foundation: Medina Co. architecture 1811 – 1900
Mercer Co., Ohio combined Atlas of 1888 & 1900
Probate Court birth records Mercer Co., Ohio book 1 1867 – 1882
Miami Valley, Ohio Deaths 1930 -1977
Monroe Co., OH cemetery inscriptions Benton & Washington townships
Monroe Co., OH cemetery inscriptions of Wayne township
Parish Records of St. Paul's German Evangelical church 1862 - 1956
Morgan Co., OH deaths 1897 – 1908
Morgan Co., OH deaths 1908 – 1952
Morgan Co., OH marriages 1899 – 1904
Morgan Co., OH marriages 1904 – 1912
Morgan Co., OH marriages 1912 -1924
Morgan Co., OH Obituary Abstracts
Morgan Co., OH Wills 1870 – 1908
Morrow Co. Death Records Vol. 1
Morrow Co. Death Record Index 1908 – 2001
Morrow Co., OH marriages 1899-1907
Records of the Craven Funeral Home (Morrow Co.)
Records of the Harry Jacobs Funeral Home (Morrow Co.)
Ottawa Co., OH –Locust Point and Rusha cemetery burials
Ottawa Co., OH St. John Lutheran Church of Port Clinton funeral records
Cemetery inscriptions of Bearfield Twp. in Perry Co., Ohio.
Eaton and vicinity deaths 1946-1979
Richland Co., Ohio Monroe Twp. cemeteries
Co-Eds – Akron Women
Map of Summit Co., Ohio in 1856
Memories of Oak Hill Presbyterian Church
Obituaries and death notices found in the Miami-Visitor weekly 1850 - 1861
Oswald's Funeral Home Records Lebanon, Ohio Vol. 1 1867 - 1890
Oswald's Funeral Home Records Lebanon, Ohio Vol. 2 1890 - 1907
Warren Co. Adoptions 1856 - 1917
Warren Co. Assessors book 2 & 3 : Births 1886 – 1907
Warren Co. Assessors book 1: Deaths 1886 – 1907
Warren Co., Ohio births 1892 - 1896
Warren Co., Ohio births 1897 - 1902
Warren Co., Ohio births 1903 – 1908
Warren Co., Ohio Death Records Book 1 1867 – 1881 (2 Vols.)
Warren Co., Ohio delayed and corrected birth registrations
Warren Co., Ohio divorces 1803 – 1900
Warren Co., Ohio Gazetteers
Warren Co., Ohio Infirmary Records 1911 -1954
Warren Co., Ohio Lunacy Record book # 1 1904-1913
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Consents 1803 – 1903
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1854 – 1861
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1861 – 1867
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1867 – 1872
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1872 – 1876
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1876 – 1882
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1882 - 1889
Warren Co., Ohio Marriage Records 1899 - 1901
Warren Co., Ohio Naturalizations 1825 – 1925
Warren Co., Ohio Obituary Index
Warren Co., Ohio Index to wills and estates 1803 – 1936 (2 vols.)
Diary of Thomas Jefferson Hadley for 1887

Pennsylvania

Pioneer outline of history of NW Pennsylvania
Biographical Cyclopedia of Cambria County, Pennsylvania
History of Perry Co., Pennsylvania (1873)
History of Perry Co., Pennsylvania (1922)

West Virginia

Journal of Jackson Co., WV Historical Society

Family Histories

Ancestry of Margery Ruth Howe Vol. 3
Jordan Family
Jason & Martha Harmer Penrose: Their ancestors and descendants 1200-1982
John Hartz and Catharine (Hershey)
William Lance/Lantz family history
The Peytons of Virginia II (2 vols.)

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Akron, Ohio 44326

Family Histories Continued

Philip & Ruth Dickerson & descendants
Daniel Tewksbury 1782-1851

Hungary

Genealogical Gazetteer of the Kingdom of Hungary

Sweden

Your Swedish Roots

Reference

Carmack's guide to Copyright and Contracts
DNA and family history
Genealogists address book
Genealogical Research Directory
(6 vols. 1999 – 2004)

Reminders

November 2005 is National Adoption Month! For information on past adoptions and support visit the Adoption Network Cleveland at http://www.adoptionnetwork.org/.

Take advantage of the Akron-Summit County Public Library's subscription to *Heritage Quest* by accessing it from your home computer. From http://www.akronlibrary.org/ put your mouse over the DATABASES & WEBSITES button in the left column. Select RESEARCH DATABASES then OPLIN ONE SEARCH. You will be prompted to enter your library card number and your pin. From the alphabetical list of databases, you will see *Heritage Quest*. Click on the database name.

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